

HALESWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T S

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SURVEYOR/PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1963



Medical Officer of Health

H.E. NUTTEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Surveyor/Public Health Inspector

F.W.Y. BUCKLEY, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.



HALESWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

H.E. NUTTEN,  
Medical Officer  
of Health.

To: The Chairman and Members of the  
Halesworth Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for  
1963.

The mid-1963 population, as estimated by the Registrar  
General, is 2,340 which shows an increase of 50 persons from the  
corresponding period a year previously.

The Water Undertaking is now administered by the East  
Anglian Water Company and I am indebted to them for the following  
Chemical Analysis and Bacteriological reports which are typical of  
the many taken during the year.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient Servant,

H.E. NUTTEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

Town Hall,  
Halesworth,  
Suffolk.

June, 1964.



CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER

Distinctive No. or Name.	Nitrogen			Chloride as Chlorine	Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate (4 hr. 27°C)	Hardness		Free Carbon Dioxide	Total Dissolved Solids at 180°C.	pH	Colonies per ml. on agar at 37°C, 2 days
	Ammon- iacal	Album- inoid	Nitrate			Total Temp.	Perm				
Appearances: Deposit: Colour: Odour: Taste: Iron: Other Metals:	0.01	0.03	3	82	0.55	310	260	50	500	7.6	Nil
	Clear, with yellow deposit. Organic debris, iron compounds. Faint yellow. Nil. Satisfactory. 1.35 p.p.m. Absent.										

Remarks: Both the organic quality and the bacteriological condition of this water are very good. Its analytical characteristics are well maintained. It requires the removal of its iron content to avoid inconvenience to consumers but given such treatment it is very suitable for drinking, and general purposes.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER

Colonies per ml. on agar at 37°C.			Probable Number per 100 ml.		Additional Data
24 hours	48 hours	Presumptive Coliforms	E.Coli Type 1		
			Nil		
	Nil	Nil			

Remarks - This result is very satisfactory.

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# GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres).....	1,107
Registrar-General's estimate of population (mid-1963).....	2,340
Number of inhabited houses (estimated).....	869
Rateable Value.....	£32,589
Product of Penny Rate (estimated).....	£270

	Halesworth Urban District	England & Wales
<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>		
Number.....	30	-
Rate per 1,000 population.....	12.7	18.2
<u>ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS</u> per cent of total live births....	3.3	-
<u>STILLBIRTHS</u>		
Number.....	1	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births.....	32.2	17.3
<u>TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS</u> .....	31	-
<u>INFANT DEATHS</u> (Deaths under 1 year).....	2	-
<u>INFANT MORTALITY RATES</u>		
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births.....	66.6	20.9
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births.	68.9	+
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births.....	Nil	+
<u>NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE</u> (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births).....	66.6	+
<u>EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE</u> (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births).....	33.3	+
<u>PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE</u> (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)...	64.5	+
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY</u> (including abortion)		
Number of deaths.....	Nil	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births.....	Nil	+

- Not applicable.

+ Not yet available.

## VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL.....	14	16	30
Legitimate.....	14	15	29
Illegitimate.....	-	1	1

STILL BIRTHS	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL.....	1	-	1
Legitimate.....	1	-	1
Illegitimate.....	-	-	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL.....	-	2	2
Legitimate.....	-	2	2
Illegitimate.....	-	-	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL.....	-	2	2
Legitimate.....	-	2	2
Illegitimate.....	-	-	-

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 WEEK OF AGE	Male	Female	TOTAL
TOTAL.....	-	1	1
Legitimate.....	-	1	1
Illegitmiate.....	-	-	-

DEATHS - ALL AGES	Male	Female	TOTAL
DEATHS - All Ages.....	20	14	34

R A T E S

RATES	Halesworth Urban District	England & Wales
Adjusted Birth Rate.....	15.2	-
Death rate per 1,000 estimate population.....	14.5	12.2
Adjusted Death Rate.....	12.9	-

Comparability Factor (Births) 1.20  
Comparability Factor (Deahts) 0.89

CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS

SEX	AGE	CAUSE OF DEATHS
F	3 weeks 9 hours	Ileal Stenosis. Prematurity.



# CAUSES OF DEATH

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other.....	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease.....	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
5. Whooping cough.....	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections.....	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
8. Measles.....	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases.....	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	-	-	-
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.....	-	-	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	-	-	-
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	-	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm.....	3	1	4
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	-	-	-
16. Diabetes.....	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	1	3	4
18. Coronary disease, angina.....	5	2	7
19. Hypertension with heart disease.....	-	-	-
20. Other heart disease.....	4	3	7
21. Other circulatory diseases.....	2	-	2
22. Influenza.....	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia.....	2	-	2
24. Bronchitis.....	2	-	2
25. Other diseases of respiratory system.....	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.....	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis.....	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate.....	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations.....	-	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.....	1	1	2
33. Motor Vehicle accidents.....	-	-	-
34. All other accidents.....	-	2	2
35. Suicide.....	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war.....	-	-	-
	20	14	34

## ADJUSTED BIRTH AND DEATH RATE : COMPARABILITY FACTOR

Local birth rates are expressed in terms of population. These populations are estimated by the Registrar General and comprise persons of all ages, including those who have no influence on the birth rate. These latter do, however, affect the birth rate in that a high proportion of them in a population tends to lower, and a small proportion tends to raise the true rate. The size of this proportion will vary in different areas and, therefore, the elimination or standardization of such a factor will give a truer comparison between areas.

The Registrar General issues a comparability factor on these lines. Multiplication of the crude birth rate of an area by the comparability factor gives the adjusted birth rate and can be compared with the crude rate for England and Wales.

The comparability factor for deaths is obtained in a similar way to the above. The factors for certain areas, where rapid increase or reduction in the population materially affects its comparison by sex and age groups, are also adjusted on that account. Death rate area comparability factors are adjusted to take account of the presence of any residential institutions in each area. Birth rate area comparability factors are also adjusted to take account of the presence of sterile populations in institutions for the mentally ill or mentally deficient.

Table showing the more important Causes of Death, numbers and percentages

CAUSES OF DEATH	NO. OF DEATHS		PERCENTAGE	
	1962	1963	1962	1963
Diseases of circulatory system.....	21	16	77.77	47.05
Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	1	4	3.70	11.76
Malignant diseases.....	2	5	7.41	14.70
Pneumonia and Bronchitis.....	2	4	7.41	11.76
Influenza.....	-	-	-	-
All other causes.....	1	5	3.70	14.70
TOTAL	27	34	99.99	99.97

In 1963, 73% of all deaths fell under the first three headings.  
The comparable figure for 1962 was 88% and 1961 was 77%.

Comparative Statistics

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Population.....	2186	2249	2270	2310	2310	2330	2350	2350	2400	2250	2290	2340
No. of Inhabited Houses.	772	810	830	806	745	761	752	768	798	803	837	869
No. of Live Births.....	34	35	29	49	38	45	26	37	39	30	36	30
Birth Rate (crude).....	15.5	15.5	12.8	21.2	16.5	19.3	11.0	15.7	16.25	13.3	15.7	12.7
No. of Still births.....	0	1	0	4	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Maternal Mortality.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Infant Mortality Rate...	45.4	42.8	0	20.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	27.7	66.6
(No. of Deaths).....	(2)	(5)	(-)	(1)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(1)	(2)
No. of Deaths (All ages)	30	30	30	18	23	25	21	19	26	22	27	34
Death Rate (crude).....	13.7	13.3	13.2	7.8	9.9	10.7	8.9	8.0	10.83	9.8	11.7	14.5



Infectious Diseases  
Number of all confirmed cases of Infectious and other notifiable diseases  
notified during the year 1963 according to age and sex.

AGE	Measles			Puerperal Pyrexia	
	Males	Female	TOTAL	Female	TOTAL
Under 1.....	-	1	1	-	-
1 - .....	1	2	3	-	-
2 - .....	-	-	-	-	-
3 - .....	2	1	3	-	-
4 - .....	-	1	1	-	-
5 - 9.....	1	-	1	-	-
10 - 14.....	-	1	1	-	-
15 - 24.....	-	-	-	1	1
25 - 44.....	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64.....	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	4	6	10	1	1

4 Males plus 7 Females = 11.

Diseases notified during the year, classified according to month of  
Occurance

	Measles	Puerperal Pyrexia
January.....	3	-
February.. ..	-	-
March.....	-	-
April.....	-	-
May.....	-	1
June.....	-	-
July.....	1	-
August.....	1	-
September.....	1	-
October.....	-	-
November.....	-	-
December.....	4	-
TOTAL	10	1

TUBERCULOSIS

	Males		Females		TOTAL
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
No. of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1962.....	4	1	6	2	13
No. of cases added during the year	1	-	1	-	2
No. of cases removed during the year.....	2	-	-	-	2
No. of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1963.....	3	1	7	2	13

Cases added to the Register		Cases removed from the Register	
New notifications.....	2	Recovered.....	2
Inward transfers.....	-	Died.....	-
		Removed to other areas.....	-
Total.....	2	Total.....	2

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR/PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1963.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1963.

WATER.

During the period under review the Water supply to the Urban District of Halesworth has been under the control of the East Anglian Water Company. The principal source of supply continues to be the artesian bore at the Chediston Street Works - this supply is supplemented by water from the Waterworks at Walpole.

Work of completing a ring main in and around Halesworth has gone forward during the year with a view to supplementing the Chediston Street Works supply to the Bungay Road Tower and to include another source of supply from the Holton Bore. Test boring has also been carried out at various points in and around the District area. It is understood that the completion of these projects will safeguard the supplies in the District.

As will be seen from the report by Dr. H.E. Nutton, Medical Officer of Health, the water is reported to be very satisfactory for drinking and general purposes.

Number of houses supplied from water mains direct to houses - 935, and 50 metered supplies (these figures include factories, farms and premises occupied for business and dwelling purposes.

Number of houses supplied by means of standpipe - 12.

Number of houses not supplied - 3.

Number of population supplied by mains water supply - 2,288.

Number of population supplied by means of standpipes - 62.

Number of population not supplied from mains - 8.

Number of units paying hose rate - 56.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Sewage Disposal Works at Bramfield Road continue to operate satisfactorily.

The number of pail closets in the area has been reduced by three during the year, leaving 45. This reduction is due to the closure of houses rather than by connection to the sewer.

The small area to the north of the Town is still without sewers. At present, any consideration of a plan for provision of such sewerage would have to consider the facts that there are few houses in the area and the engineering difficulties of providing such sewerage.



The Sewerage Works which in addition to the sewerage from Halesworth, take sewerage from the villages of Wissett and Holton, has dealt with the total flow of these three places fairly adequately. It is however becoming increasingly obvious from the Laboratory reports on samples of effluent taken by the East Suffolk and Norfolk River Board that the proposed extension to the Works is becoming an urgent necessity. Building progress within the area is accelerating and additional proposals are continuously being received, these will throw an increasing burden upon the Works.

Sludge burning has continued at the Works. It will be remembered from my last report that cylindrical incinerators with deep curved basket grates appeared to be the most satisfactory design. Two temporary incinerators of this design were built and were used quite successfully for most of the year. In this connection two points must be emphasized. First, that the incinerators were improvised and made from salvaged material which was readily at hand; secondly, that no form of flame or heat boost has yet been used in these experiments. It is certain that some form of heat boost would increase the efficiency of the unit considerably.

The advantages of this form of sludge disposal in areas where disposal is difficult are obvious if one takes into consideration the great reduction effected in bulk. In addition it should be pointed out that the resultant ash has been used successfully in various forms, as top dressing for grass lands, as replacement filtering media on sludge drying beds and as a surfacing material for farm roads.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

A weekly collection of house refuse is made by the Council employing two men and one refuse lorry. Disposal is by means of a controlled tip at Mells.

The system of collection, at present in use, has been in existence for about eleven years. The only alteration during that time has been the replacement of the old collection vehicle by a newer and larger vehicle. It is anticipated that, in the near future, a new system of collection will have to be planned in order to deal with refuse from an increasing number of houses.

Street cleansing is carried out daily. Stormwater gullies are emptied at regular intervals.

#### RODENT CONTROL.

One of the Council's employees, who has had the requisite training, is employed part time by the Council as a Rodent Operative.

There are 869 houses in the area together with 270 premises comprising Commercial, industrial, entertainment, educational, and miscellaneous undertakings, and complaints of rodent infestation are dealt with immediately.

Regular visits to the refuse tip and Sewage Works are made for the purpose of inspection and, where necessary, disinfection.

One sewer investigation was carried out during the year but no evidence of infestation was detected.

#### DISINFESTATION.

Disinfection service is available, and principal calls were for destruction of wasps, ants and beetles. Only two requests were received during the year to deal with fleas.

It is regrettable to have to record that there is still a very small number of people who refuse to believe that a manure pit, close to houses, can be a cause for complaint not only from smell but as a source of fly infestation. They appear not to notice the odour themselves, and are apparently immune or are resigned to the possibility of contracting some fly borne disease.

There are, within the district, examples of branches of Agricultural industry which are properly established and excellently maintained, but equally there remains the isolated case where the fact that houses are in close proximity is ignored and almost constant supervision has to be exercised in order to prevent complaints

of smell and fly infestation. Far too little attention is paid to the necessity for regular and frequent removal manure, and there is no doubt that there is no animal which does not prosper by being raised in clean conditions and clean surroundings.

#### FOOD PREMISES.

There are 10 premises registered for the sale of ice cream in the Area, all of which sell pre-packed ice cream. There are no premises registered for the purpose of manufacturing ice cream.

Four premises are registered for the manufacture of sausages and sausage meat.

One hundred and twenty six inspections of food premises were carried out during the year and four were found to be unsatisfactory in some respect. These have since been put in order.

All Hotels and Public Houses in the Area are now connected to the Sewer.

It is pleasing to report that the standard of cleanliness in food shops is being maintained generally at a high level, and to note that more care and attention is being paid to the question of internal decoration of shops.

#### MEAT INSPECTION.

There are no Slaughterhouses in the Council's area.

Care in meat handling has been carefully observed by meat traders in the area and on only one occasion has it been necessary to take informal action. It must be stressed that the general public can themselves, contribute to the maintenance of high standards of cleanliness in all food shops, not only in demanding cleanliness in the shop but in ensuring that they themselves do not smoke over food which is temporarily exposed, that they do not take dogs into shops, and finally but of equal importance, if they must view a piece of meat from all angles, by asking the shopkeeper to show it to them, in order to avoid, as far as possible, the handling of foodstuffs by members of the public.

#### HOUSING.

During the year 49 houses were inspected, 19 of which were found to be unsatisfactory in some respect. As a result of informal action the necessary repairs have been carried out at each of these houses.

Two houses were demolished as a result of informal action.

Sixteen new houses were built by the Local Authority and ten houses by private enterprise.

One Standard Grant was made during the year and one Discretionary Grant.

Mention should be made of the Scheme embarked upon by the Halesworth Urban District Council, the results of which became evident during the year. This scheme, which consisted of the erection of houses and bungalows for sale to the public has met with a highly satisfactory response. Purchasers appear to be completely satisfied with the dwellings and with the facilities offered for making the purchase. There is little doubt that, whilst some of the Purchasers are from outside the Urban District, a large proportion of the dwellings are being bought by younger people already in employment within the Area, who were living with relatives and who would undoubtedly have gone on to the Council's Housing List or would have moved away from the area. Continuation of this scheme has been embarked upon together with plans for the construction of more Council Houses to let.

#### FACTORIES.

There are 38 premises registered under the Factories Act within the Urban District.

89 inspections were carried out and no defects were observed.



FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	8	21	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	30	51	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' Premises).....	10	17	Nil	Nil
total	48	89	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars. (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)..... Overcrowding (S.2)..... Unreasonable temperature (S.3).. Inadequate ventilation (S.4).. Ineffective drainage of floors (S.5)..... Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)... (a) Insufficient..... (b) Unsuitable or defective.. (c) Not separate for sexes... Others offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).....	NIL				

Part VIII of the Act.  
Sections 133 and 134 - A Nil Return.

I am, Sirs,  
Your obedient Servant,

F.W.Y. BUCKLEY,  
Surveyor/Public Health Inspector.

